

[25th January 1928]

*Question No. 929 (888) (c).—If so, whether it is due to the extension of reserved forests or to any other cause.*

The figures noted in the margin show that the area of reserved forests in this district has been almost constant during the last four years

Fasli.	Extent of reserved forests.	
	ACS.	
1333 .. ..	510,790	54
1334 .. ..	510,790	54
1335 .. ..	510,463	67
1336 .. ..	510,464	63

The most appreciable increase occurs in the taluks of Puttur and Karkal. Both these taluks are in the interior, most of the villages being situated just at the foot of the ghauts.

Puttur taluk is an extensive taluk having an area of about 8 lakhs of acres, of which only about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs represent occupied area. Hence, an increase in the havoc done by wild animals in such a taluk having extensive wild forests cannot be accurately ascribed to any particular cause but will have to be treated as an ordinary fluctuation. It may be due to cattle being driven further into the forests and left untended. It is only necessary to motor along the roads in Puttur taluk to know how cattle stray everywhere with no one in charge of them. I believe children drive them out, go to school and in the evening come and collect them again. However, the following causes might have contributed to the increase and are suggested by local officers :—

(i) Apathy of the villagers in spite of encouragement given by Government to organize hunting parties.

(ii) Existence of reserved forests close to cultivation ; this is due to the restriction imposed against the assignment of any land within 100 yards of a reserve forest boundary. On the other hand, removal of undergrowth within half a mile of patta holdings is permitted, but the privilege is probably used for taking green leaves, not for clearing jungle of cover.

(iii) The existing jungle growth in reserves and unreserves getting denser, and thereby giving greater shelter to wild animals. This, I think, is a pure guess.

*Question No. 929 (888) (f).—What steps have been taken to reduce the ravages from wild beasts and with what results.*

As no markedly increased havoc by wild beasts was brought to the notice of the Collector, no special steps were taken to reduce it. The following are the steps taken to reduce the usual havoc done by wild beasts in this district :—

(i) Increase in the number of gun licences issued.

Year.	Number of licences.	
	Form XVI.	Form XIX.
1922 .. ..	2,110	3,407
1923 .. ..	2,258	3,538
1924 .. ..	2,303	3,546
1925 .. ..	2,429	3,737
1926 .. ..	2,556	4,054

The figures noted in the margin show the number of licences in force in this district during the last five years. There is a steady increase both under 'general' licences and 'crop' licences.

(ii) Issue of licences to hunt in reserved forests. Statistics have been given under Question (h).

(iii) Permission to hunt wild boars and tigers in reserved forests under the supervision of local forest subordinates.

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(iv) Grant of concession to ryots to remove undergrowth from reserved forests to a distance of half a mile from the limits of private holdings.

(v) Elephant capturing and permission to shoot rogue elephants.

(vi) Rewards for killing wild animals. Statistics are given in the margin for five years.

Year.	Rewards.		
	RS.	A.	P.
1922 .. .. .	3,004	0	0
1923 .. .. .	2,542	0	0
1924 .. .. .	2,520	8	0
1925 .. .. .	2,388	9	3
1926 .. .. .	1,116	10	0

The marked decrease in 1926 is evidently due to the fact that owing to the instructions of the Board of Revenue in No. 5903, Routine, dated 2nd December 1925, that rewards should be granted only in *deserving*

cases. Divisional officers restricted their rewards. It was naturally difficult to know whether 'deserving' should be applied to the shooter or the shot animal.

*Question No. 929 (88\*) (h).—How many people have sought and obtained permission to hunt in reserved forests each year during the last six years.*

Year.			Number of persons.		
1921	...	...	5	1924	...
1922	...	...	3	1925	...
1923	...	...	6	1926	...

Permission was given to villagers to hunt in reserved forests under the supervision of local Forest subordinates in one case in 1920, one case in 1925 and two cases in 1926.

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்  
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS



## APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 1427 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1928, page 247 supra.]

Number and name of estate.	Defects.	Explanation of Manager or Superintendent.	Remarks by the District Magistrate.
1. Peria Peak Estate, Peria ..	1. One more solid five roomed coolie line should be built.  2. Existing lines to be cleaned and white-washed. 3. A small dispensary to be opened.	The Superintendent Mr. Peter explains that orders were received during the monsoon. The building of a line of the new pattern adopted in estates is under contemplation. More time required.  This has been done .. .. .  A sum has been allotted for medicines and a stock will be obtained and kept shortly. As the estate is a small one it cannot afford to maintain a dispensary with a compounder.	He may be given time to 31st March 1928.  Done.  Done.
2. Glen Leven Estate, Peria ..	Do.	Do.	Defects Nos. 2 and 3 remedied. For No. 1 he may be given time to 31st March 1928.
3. Kadalete Pepper and Coffee Estate, Mappainad.	1. One permanent coolie line of five or more rooms to be built near the water-supply. 2. A small dispensary to be opened.	All coolies working in the estate are "locals." There is therefore no necessity for either a coolie line or a dispensary.  ....	Not built. The statement that all the coolies are "locals" is reported to be correct. One coolie line should be insisted on.  Not opened. A stock of medicines should be maintained.
4. Beenaobi Pepper and Coffee Estates, Sultan's Battery.	1. One small dispensary to be opened. 2. Existing line to be cleaned and washed. 3. Water convenience to be arranged for.	There is a writer on the estate who lives in a rickety shed. The bungalow is neglected. There is no work going on, and no money is spent on writer's pay or estate expenses. There is not a single coolie in the estate ..	Not opened.  Not done.  Not done. At the time of the Tahsildar-Magistrate's inspection there were no coolies. Such coolies as are employed are mostly "locals." One line at least should be restored and put in order. A stock of medicines should be kept, and a proper water-supply provided.

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